



State of New
Hampshire
Department of
Education

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Messages From the Department of Education

September 2015

Table of Contents

Accountability, Assessment, Instruction, and School Improvement.....	Page 2
Certification	Page 2
Educator Effectiveness.....	Page 4
Grants and Requests For Proposals (RFP).....	Page 4
Hearings	Page 5
Innovations/Initiatives	Page 6
Professional Development.....	Page 7
Department Staff Updates	Page 9
Resources	Page 9
Other	
• Awards.....	Page 10
• Contests.....	Page 11
• Conferences/Workshops.....	Page 12
• Misc.	Page 14

ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT, INSTRUCTION, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

A. ESEA Flexibility Renewal

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) has approved a request from New Hampshire to receive continued flexibility from certain provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). NH has put forth a comprehensive reform plan that collectively moves us toward the goal of providing every student with a high quality education that prepares them for college and career. It is designed to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. For more information go to

www.education.nh.gov/accountability-system.

Contact: Paul Leather, (603) 271- 3801, Paul.L Leather@doe.nh.gov

CERTIFICATION

A. Alternative 4 and 5

Please note that candidates for alternative certification in your school district who were hired over the summer and have a Statement of Eligibility (SOE) should complete their individual professional development plan (IPDP) as soon as possible after the date of hire. It is expected that an alternative 4/5 candidate for New Hampshire certification will construct a professional development plan for that certification area that is just as rigorous as if they are enrolled in a teacher preparation program at an institution of higher education. A portfolio of evidence that documents completion of the appropriate competencies must be submitted for full certification. If you have questions about this process or need assistance please contact the Bureau of Credentialing. An Alternative 4 candidate is not considered HQT until the Intern license is in place and the candidate has passed the appropriate content test (or demonstrated content area competency through another route).

Contact: Bill Ross: (603) 271-2407 William.Ross@doe.nh.gov (for alternative 4)

Rilma Fox: (603) 271-3873, Rilma.Fox@doe.nh.gov (for alternative 5)

B. Elementary Education Endorsement changes

Beginning this year, candidates for Elementary Education K-8 will be required to have an academic concentration in one of the following content areas: Math, English Language Arts, Science or Social Studies. In addition, they will have to pass the Middle School content area Praxis II in that subject. Without a subject area concentration, candidates will receive the K-6 grade level endorsement.

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271-4196, Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov

C. Employment Reporting

All educators employed with New Hampshire districts need to have their employment status and work assignment updated every year through the i4see course submission. This includes all certified SAU office staff, such as the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Business Administrator. The employment information needs to be updated to facilitate the

online renewal process, IPDP uploads, as well as for other reports that use EIS as the data source. The Bureau of Credentialing is relying on districts to enter the data. For technical issues with the i4see uploads please contact i4see.help@doe.nh.gov.

Contact: Lisa Landenberger, (603) 271-0072, Lisa.Landenberger@doe.nh.gov

D. HQT Data in the Educator Information System

The classes which were taught by teachers who are **Not-HQT** in that subject area (2014-15) will be included in counts sent to the US Department of Education. Some districts still need to work on cleaning up the 2014-2015 data for federal reporting. It is important to check the report in EIS and determine why teachers are not verified as HQT for all of the core content classes they teach. Click on the yellow star at the top of the screen in EIS to see the not-HQT classes list. Thank you to the people who have been diligent about monitoring these lists. If there are problems, please email the educator ID(s) to Ginny.

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271-4196, Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov

E. Loan Forgiveness

Some NH educators are eligible for loan forgiveness if they teach in a high-poverty district in a critical shortage area. Please explore the following link if this applies.

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/charts/teacher#teacher-cancellation>.

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271-4196, Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov

F. National Board for Teaching Standards Certification

New Hampshire offers \$1,000 towards the cost of an educator seeking National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification. For more information on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards see www.nbpts.org.

Contact: Judith Fillion, (603) 271-3855, Judith.Fillion@doe.nh.gov

G. Praxis Exams

The Elementary Education Multi-Subject testing option is now limited to the #5001 series. The #5031 series is discontinued. Educators who need to retake one or more subtests do NOT have to repeat all of the subtests. It is acceptable to have a mixture of passing scores from the old and new series of tests. Educators are advised to check the New Hampshire information on the ETS Web site (www.ets.org/praxis/nh/requirements) before choosing to take a test. ETS may still be offering tests in other parts of the country that NH has dropped. Students need to find the correct test number for New Hampshire to be certain they take the right test. Tests are updated regularly on the ETS Web site and the test numbers change.

Contact: Ginny Clifford, (603) 271-4196, Virginia.Clifford@doe.nh.gov

H. Professional Development Committee Contacts

Please forward any changes in the contact information for District/SAU professional development committee chairs or SAU/district contacts to Lisa Kaim. Having this contact

facilitates communication regarding professional development opportunities as well as PD Master Plan revisions.

Contact: Lisa Kaim, (603) 271-8049, Lisa.Kaim@doe.nh.gov

EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS

A. Voluntary Peer Review Process for District Support and Evaluation Systems Update

For those educators interested in further information about the voluntary peer review process for district support and evaluation systems and were not able to participate in the Introductory Peer Review Process webinar, the link to the webinar is below (please note this webinar is being accessed with Blackboard Collaborate Launcher). If after you listen to the webinar and want more information or have questions please contact Karen Soule at your earliest convenience as planning for the voluntary process continues.

<https://sas.elluminate.com/p.inlp?psid=2015-08-20.0659.M.E11B2BCA5D20E1063722E8D4C20A94.vcr&sid=2013296>.

Contact: Karen Soule, (603) 271-6813, Karen.Soule@doe.nh.gov

B. Ensuring Equitable Access for all Students to Excellent Educators

New Hampshire has the lowest percentage of school-aged children living in poverty in the United States; however there are still many areas in our state where poverty, language barriers and lack of resources challenge our schools. These are our most vulnerable students who truly need exposure to the best teachers possible to achieve academic success and thus break the cycle of poverty. The New Hampshire Equity Plan was established to focus on this challenge. What can be done statewide to support and aid schools and districts in recruiting and retaining excellent educators? That is the challenging task before us. We want and need effective teachers in every classroom in the state, especially those in high poverty regions. The New Hampshire Ensuring Equitable Access for all Students to Excellent Educators Plan is an opportunity for the entire New Hampshire community to understand a systems-approach that analyzes, revises and expands on current initiatives to assure that the focus remains on providing equitable access to excellent educators for all students in New Hampshire. The plan can be found at www.education.nh.gov/teaching/ensuring-equity.htm. For further information about the plan or next steps please contact Karen Soule by September 15, 2015.

Contact: Karen Soule, (603) 271-6813, Karen.Soule@doe.nh.gov

GRANTS and REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

ALL RFPs Can be Found on the Department Website at
www.education.nh.gov/rfp/index.htm

A. National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Data Grant

The New Hampshire Afterschool Network, in collaborations with the NH Department of Education and Plymouth State University, was awarded a data grant from the NCSL to expand its research on 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) program outcomes. Researchers from Plymouth State University will examine the impact of 21st

CCLC to include: grade promotion, school day attendance, and performance on standardized assessments. Researchers will also take a closer look at the influence of afterschool programs on the attainment of 21st century skills such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and adaptability. These skills are arguably the most important in developing tomorrow's skilled workforce. For more information go to www.education.nh.gov/news/afterschool-data-grant.htm.

Contact: Suzanne Birdsall-Stone, (603) 271-3853, Suzanne.Birdsall-Stone@doe.nh.gov

B. Teacher Education, Multi-Levels: Program Development, Integration & Improvement

The Bureau of Career Development is seeking to increase the number, quality, and sustainability of teacher education programs preparing NH's next generation of teachers. Funds received through this RFP are intended for use in the development, integration, and improvement of NH's teacher education programs and to establish a high quality source of teacher candidates to meet NH's labor market needs. These programs are to be delivered at the secondary level, beginning as early as the junior year of high school. Recommended components of the program include psychology, sociology, foundations of education (DE), classroom management, classroom environment, introduction to exceptionalities (DE), and development of skills in curriculum and instructional methods. Deadline for receipt of proposals is Friday, October 2, 2015 by 3:00 p.m.

Contact: Courtney Ritchings, (603) 573-0166, Courtney.Ritchings@doe.nh.gov

HEARINGS

A. Minimum Standards For Public School Approval: Arts Education Program; English/Language Arts and Reading Program; Health Education Program; Physical Education Program; Information and Communication Technologies Program; Mathematics Program; Science Education Program; Social Studies Program; Technology/Engineering Education Program; and World Languages Program

There was a public hearing on September 9, 2015. Deadline for written materials is September 16, 2015. Please send them to Erin McIntyre at Erin.McIntyre@doe.nh.gov.

B. Ed 505.07 and Ed 610.02 (Professional Education Requirements)

A public hearing will be held November 18, 2015, at 11:30 a.m. at the Department of Education, 101 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301. Deadline for written comment will be December 3, 2015. The proposed change to the administrative rules is to add an educator code of ethics through reference to the NASDTEC Model Code of Educator Ethics (MCEE). See http://www.nasdtec.net/default.asp?page=MCEE_DOCS for information on the MCEE. See www.education.nh.gov/legislation/adopt_amend_repeal.htm for information on Administrative Rulemaking for the New Hampshire Department of Education.

Contact: Judith Fillion, (603) 271-3855, Judith.Fillion@doe.nh.gov

C. New Hampshire Rules for Education of Children with Disabilities

The NH Rules were originally amended on June 30, 2008 and they expire on June 30, 2016. With this in mind, the Bureau of Special Education is seeking input from the public prior to

formally entering rule making and will be hosting regional meetings and webinars to present the current NH Rules to the public.

Meeting dates and times:

- Tuesday September 15th – 10:00 a.m.-noon, 145 Broad Street (Claremont Savings Bank, Community Room) Claremont, NH 03743
- Wednesday September 16th - 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., 2 Academy Avenue (Lane Memorial Library, Lane Room) Hampton, NH 03842
- Monday, September 21st - 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., 101 Pleasant Street (Londergan Hall, Room 15), Concord, NH 03301
- Monday, September 28th – 6: p.m.-8:00 p.m., 72 Linwood Drive (Lin-Wood Public School, All Purpose Room) Lincoln, NH 03251

Webinar - Wednesday, September 23, 2015, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/812189829> Join the conference call: 1-800-240-3895
guest code: 600113#

If you would like to provide written input, please e-mail Bridget.Brown@doe.nh.gov. Please include “written input” in the subject line.

INNOVATIONS/INITIATIVES

A. NH History Education Opportunity

In 2016, a memorial to John Gilbert Winant will be installed in front of the NH State Library in Concord, directly across from the State House. Winant was a decorated pilot during WWI, elected to the NH House and Senate, and served three terms as Governor. He was the first head of the Social Security Administration – which is why NH-issued social security numbers begin with 000, 001 and 002 – and led the International Labor Organization in the years just prior to WWII. He was also FDR’s U.S. Ambassador to England during the war years. Winant was known for his kindness and would quietly give 50-cent pieces to homeless people in Concord during the Depression, allowing them to buy a hot meal and a place to stay for the night. During his time as ambassador, he would walk throughout London after bombings, personally assisting citizens on the streets of the capital. Prime Minister Winston Churchill called him “a friend of justice, freedom and truth” and “an inspiration.” In anticipation of a renewed interest in Winant, including by educators to incorporate his story into their curriculum, a website has been developed for those wishing more information about him and the memorial at www.winantmemorial.org.

B. Universal Design for Learning Academy

Applications are now being accepted for Cohort II Universal Design for Learning Academy (UDL). Universal Design for Learning is a set of principles to develop learning environments that give all individuals equal opportunities to learn. The NH Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education, has contracted with CAST: Center for Applied Special Education Technology to provide New Hampshire educators with professional customized learning opportunities that build capacity in the implementation and roll out of UDL as a systemic framework for educational decision-making. For more information or to download an application go to www.education.nh.gov/instruction/special_ed/universal_design_learning.htm. Deadline is Friday, September 18, 2015.

Contact: Mary Lane, (603) 271-3740, Mary.Lane@doe.nh.gov

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards Training

The State of NH, as a result of the collaborative work between the Office of Student Wellness and the Office of Minority and Refugee Health Affairs, has been recognized nationally for our work to adapt the National Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards to the educational setting. Originally developed for use in hospitals and doctor's offices, CLAS Standards are a set of best practices that guide organizations in the support of diversity and help to increase effectiveness within various sub-populations. For more information, please visit: <http://goo.gl/kJjElx>. If you are interested in a complimentary training on CLAS Standards for your school or district, please contact us.

Contact: Terry Stafford, (603) 271-3720, Terry.Stafford@doe.nh.gov

B. NH Girls Technology Days

These events provide New Hampshire's young women opportunities to participate in hands on learning that explores STEM career fields. This popular event continues to expand in order to provide greater access. GTD 2016 events will take place at the following sites:

- March 15, NHTI in Concord, NH
- March 16, Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth, NH
- March 17, University of New Hampshire in Durham, NH
- March 18, Manchester Community College in Manchester, NH

Contact: Jennifer Kiley, (603) 573-0600, Jennifer.Kiley@doe.nh.gov or
Courtney Ritchings, (603) 573-0166, Courtney.Ritchings@doe.nh.gov

C. OPEN NH Self-Paced Tutorials

a) Bullying Awareness and Prevention (a 3-Hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

This tutorial costs \$10.00 and covers basic issues surrounding bullying, the impact of cyberbullying, and the requirements of the New Hampshire Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention Act. Participants will earn a Certificate of Completion for 3 hours of professional development that will satisfy the required basic training in bullying awareness and prevention. For more information and online registration, visit www.regonline.com/bullyingtutorial.

b) The NH 3 Tiered Bullying Prevention and Intervention Model (a 5-Hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

This tutorial costs \$25.00 and covers the three tiers: general prevention, at-risk intervention, and targeting of severe needs. The characteristics of an effective bullying prevention program are also covered. Participants will earn a Certificate of Completion for 5 hours of professional development that will satisfy the required basic training in bullying awareness and prevention. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/nh3tierbullying>.

c) Substitute Teaching: Tools and Tips for Success (a 5-hour Self-Paced Tutorial)

In an effort to assist schools in preparing potential substitute teachers for teaching in NH schools, the NH e-Learning for Educators, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education, is offering a short online tutorial through OPEN NH. This tutorial costs \$25.00 and provides basic knowledge and skills necessary for being an

effective substitute teacher. Proper preparation before substituting in a school or district will greatly increase the confidence and comfort level of substitute teachers working with students in the classroom. The tutorial provides a brief overlook of the situation in education today and prepares potential substitutes with an understanding of how teachers and students interact in our changing educational landscape. Basic skills and techniques for teaching lessons to students along with some strategies for managing behavioral issues are explored. Finally, the tutorial covers a basic understanding of the kinds of policies and procedures that schools must operate under, including the NH pupil safety policy involving bullying. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/substitutetutorial>.

d) Ten Technology Skills for Learning and Teaching (a 15-hour self-paced tutorial)

Students in the 21st Century must be creative and resourceful critical thinkers, effective problem-solvers, and life-long learners. In order for students to be successful learners that have these skills, teachers must be effective and relevant in their learning and teaching. They must be groundbreaking pioneers and visionary leaders in their schools and communities. Pioneering leaders model good practices in their ability to use today's tools and technologies productively, understand how to access and use information effectively, and commit to be active collaborators in our global society. With so much to do every day, teachers often fall behind with their desires to keep up to date with the newest technologies and practices. Lack of skills and basic understanding can often be frustrating and prevent you from using current technologies effectively. In this OPEN NH tutorial, you will explore some basic skills necessary for effective use of technologies in the digital age. You will examine ten basic technology skills that can help you improve how you understand and use technology, from basic hardware and productivity tools to web browsers and software applications. This self-paced tutorial costs \$75.00 and will allow you to explore these skills in your own time, and at your own pace, to help increase your comfort level as you move from novice to beginner. For more information and online registration, visit <https://www.regonline.com/tentechskills>.

Districts may register cohorts of teachers in any of these tutorials at reduced cohort registration rates. For more information, visit www.opennh.org or contact the OPEN NH Project Coordinator.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov

D. OPEN NH Online Professional Development Courses

Registrations are now being accepted for the Winter Session of OPEN NH courses. The seven week, 35 hour online professional development courses begin October 7th and continue through November 24th. The registration fee for OPEN NH professional development courses is \$130, with early bird fee of \$120 in effect through September 22nd. Districts can also request the special delivery of any of our courses over a 7-8 week time frame of their choice. To request a special delivery course, a designated team leader should complete a Special Course Delivery Registration form, available online, and send it to the OPEN NH Project Coordinator for processing, or contact the coordinator.

OPEN NH offers a variety of group discounts for SAUs, districts, or schools. Deals include 25 seats in our seven week 35 hour online professional development courses for \$2,625 or four seats for two teachers for \$440. The list of OPEN NH professional development courses

offered during the upcoming OPEN NH sessions can be found on the Web site at:
www.opennh.org.

Graduate credits are available through Plymouth State University at an additional cost of \$185 plus a \$30 registration fee. OPEN NH is part of the NH e-Learning for Educators Project, a program of the New Hampshire Department of Education.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, or Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov

E. Registered Youth Apprenticeship & School-to-Work/Work-Based Learning Overview

This School-to-Work and Work-Based Learning Overview of Youth Labor Laws, Site Approval, Non-Paid Work-Based Learning Approval & Obtaining Hazardous Order Exemptions will take place Friday, October 30th from 9:00 a.m. – noon in Concord. The target audience is CTE directors & other secondary school administrators and Work-based learning and school-to-career coordinators. Pre-Register for this event at <http://goo.gl/forms/ZjDPoA65Wy>.

F. School Nursing Essentials and Beyond

School Nursing Essentials and Beyond is a three day workshop presented by the New Hampshire School Nurses' Association in collaboration with the New Hampshire State Department of Education. You may register for one, two or three days (October 17th, November 14th, and March 12th). To register or for more information go to <https://nhsn3a18.wildapricot.org/event-1969527>. For questions contact NHSNA@comcast.net.

DEPARTMENT STAFF UPDATES

Nicole Heimarck has joined the NH Department of Education as the Administrator for the Bureau of Educator Preparation. Nicole worked most recently as the Director of Curriculum and Professional Development for SAU 39 which includes the Souhegan, Amherst and Mont Vernon school districts. She brings substantial experience from the K-12 perspective in transitioning a district to implementing the NH College and Career Ready Standards. Nicole can be reached at (603) 271-2634 Or Nicole.Heimarck@doe.nh.gov.

RESOURCES

A. Be a Learning Hero

To help parents help their children, the National PTA along with other national organizations such as Scholastic, National Council of La Raza, GreatSchools, and Common Sense Media, launched Be a Learning Hero — a public service partnership designed to support parents to be learning heroes for their kids at back to school and throughout the school year. For more information go to <http://bealearninghero.org>.

B. Constitution Day Essay Contest

In 2004, the Congress decided that "Constitution Day" should be observed in schools each year on September 17th, with educational programs about the history and signing of the Constitution. To help celebrate Constitution Day, seven newspapers and the New Hampshire Supreme Court have sponsored an annual "Constitution Day Essay Contest" for grades 5-12

on a topic related to our constitutional rights as citizens. This contest is open to students in grades 5-12 in New Hampshire or those in Maine, Massachusetts and Vermont who are served by the participating papers. Students are asked to write essays about a relevant Constitutional issue. You can obtain the 2015 essay question and other contest information at www.courts.state.nh.us/student/contest.htm or by contacting David Tirrell-Wysocki at the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications at dtwysocki@loeb.school.org or (603) 627-0005.

C. Get Ready Campaign

American Public Health Association Get Ready campaign helps Americans prepare themselves, their families and their communities for all disasters and hazards, including pandemic flu, infectious disease, natural disasters and other emergencies. For more information go to www.getreadyforflu.org/newsite.htm.

D. Safe in the Sun

Merrimack Valley High School Junior, Elizabeth West, has created a Safe in the Sun brochure and safe sun practices for schools recommendations. Please go to www.education.nh.gov/spotlight/safe-in-the-sun.htm to access this information.

E. Wonders of Wildlife (WOW)

Educators who want to introduce their students in grades 3-6 to New Hampshire's wildlife and wetland resources – or reinforce related lessons – have until September 28th to request fall 2015 WOW presentations by New Hampshire Fish and Game Department volunteer docents. Wonders of Wildlife is a series of active educational programs presented in the classroom. Fish and Game WOW docents travel to elementary schools to teach one of four interactive programs: Habits and Habitats; Endangered Species; Pond Ecology; and Wetlands. There is no charge for the programs. To download a print-and-mail request form go to www.wildnh.com/education/wonders-of-wildlife.html and download the Program Request Form (PDF).

OTHER

United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP)

In New Hampshire each high school principal may nominate one eligible student. Selection will be based on academic accomplishments, community services, and demonstrated qualities of leadership as elected high school student body officers for the 2015-2016 school year. Whether outspoken or soft spoken, the type of student who thrives during Washington Week is one who is truly interested in government, history, politics and leadership and one who has a demonstrated desire to serve others in a leadership capacity. High academic achievement, high aspirations for college and career and other clear examples of self-motivation and creativity often define Senate Youth delegates. A selection committee reviews the nominations and chooses several finalists. All finalists are interviewed in early November by the selection committee. The Committee then selects two primary delegates and a first and second alternate. Alternates will be selected as replacements in the event a primary delegate is for any reason unable to participate in the program's Washington Week. Delegates will travel to Washington (all expenses paid) and receive \$5,000 scholarships. The 53rd Annual USSYP will be held in Washington, D.C. March 5-12, 2016. For more information go to www.education.nh.gov/recognition/us_senate.htm. Application deadline is October 15, 2015.

Fernand J. Prevost Mathematics Teaching Award

Nominees are being sought for the annual Fernand J. Prevost Mathematics Teaching Award. NH Teachers of Mathematics (NHTM) is presenting the award in recognition of the contribution that Ferd has made to the mathematics educators of New Hampshire during his thirty years as the state mathematics consultant. The award is being given to a beginning teacher in her/his first through fifth year (note: there was a typo in the Mathesis regarding this eligibility) who meets the following criteria which exemplify the characteristics which Ferd has brought to his teaching:

- commitment to good mathematics
- confidence that children can learn
- a spirit of self-reflection and professional curiosity
- caring and concern for colleagues
- a willingness to explore, to learn, and to grow as a teacher of mathematics
- a willingness to share mathematical and pedagogical activities with others.

The recipient will receive a plaque of achievement, a \$250 prize, and a one year membership to NHTM. The presentation of the award will be made at the NHTM Spring Conference. Nomination forms and applications can be found on the NHTM Web site at <http://www.nhmathteachers.org/page-1729170> or can be obtained by sending a request to Rich Andrusiak at randrusiak@ccsnh.edu. Nominations are due by December 15, 2015.

Reaching Out to High School Girls Who Have Aspirations in Computing

Aspirations in Computing is a talent development pipeline initiative of the National Center for Women & IT (NCWIT). The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing honors high school girls who are active and interested in computing and technology, and encourages them to pursue their passions. We ask that educators at your institution help publicize this opportunity, identify high school aged young women with an interest in computing, and strongly encourage them to apply. To apply or for more information go to www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school or contact Melissa Gould, Co-Coordinator, ME-NH-VT Aspirations, University of New Hampshire at <mailto:melissa.gould@unh.edu>.

New Hampshire's Dumbest Law Contest

A group of state lawmakers are holding a statewide contest called "New Hampshire's Dumbest Law." They are asking students to find the most outdated, silliest, or most ridiculous law on the books. They will then work to have the law repealed. New Hampshire students have until September 15th to post a law they'd like to see repealed on the event's Facebook page called New Hampshire's Dumbest Law (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/New-Hampshires-Dumbest-Law/643054389164773?fref=ts>) or they can e-mail Representative Abramson at maxabramson@gmx.com.

Mathematical Song Competition

MoMath is now accepting submissions for an all-new mathematical song competition. Write your own words to a favorite tune or compose your own melody; the only rules are that the lyrics must be original and must be about math or a mathematical concept. The winners will be announced, and will have a chance to perform their winning songs, at an open mic night at MoMath on Thursday, November 19. Deadline for submissions is October 9th. For more information go to <https://in.momath.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=424>.

Sikorsky Helicopter 2050 Challenge

The Sikorsky Helicopter 2050 Challenge asks kids ages 9-16 to come up with a concept for a sustainable, environmentally friendly helicopter of the future. The grand prize winner will be awarded \$1,000, the Igor Sikorsky Youth Innovator Award, and a trip to Sikorsky headquarters in Stratford, CT. You can enter your ideas until October 15, 2015. For more information go to www.helicopter2050.com.

Creative Aging Workshops offered to NH Teaching Artists

The N.H. State Council on the Arts is offering two Creative Aging Workshops for teaching artists and arts educators interested in working with adults 55 and older. The workshops will provide research on arts and aging, explore what is different about adult learning, analyze best practices, and help participants combine their arts and education skills to form a strong basis for working with older adults. A workshop designed for artists with a background working in education will take place Sept. 16, 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Kilton Library in West Lebanon. The second workshop, which is open to all artists with an interest in working with older adults, will take place Sept. 17, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at GoodLife Programs and Activities in Concord. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Each workshop has a registration fee of \$50, which includes a box lunch and all materials. To register or for more information about the Creative Aging Workshops visit nh.gov/nharts or contact Catherine O'Brian, (603) 271-0795, catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Retreats

Improving school climate and safety is important for creating a positive learning environment for all students. PBIS is an evidence-based framework designed to change the school environment to become less reactive, address disciplinary issues, provide training for school staff in best practices, and stress the use of data for decision-making. The Institute on Disability at UNH is offering two team retreats:

- **PBIS Universal Team Retreats**

A core element of the PBIS system is the work of a Leadership or Universal Team. The Fall retreat (October 14, 2015) will include an overview of PBIS Universal level systems, data, and practices. The Spring retreat (March 30, 2015) will allow Universal PBIS school teams to review their progress during the school year and plan for PBIS implementation during the 2015-16 school year. Both events are taking place from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center. To register or for more information go to [http://www.iod.unh.edu/Services/eventdetail/15-07-29/PBIS Universal Team Retreats.aspx](http://www.iod.unh.edu/Services/eventdetail/15-07-29/PBIS%20Universal%20Team%20Retreats.aspx).

- **PBIS Behavioral Support Team Retreats**

Participants will learn about and explore various evidence-based group intervention strategies through showcasing case examples from area schools, supporting participants in learning how to design interventions in their school, and a focus on progress-monitoring tools and sustainability. The Fall retreat (November 3, 2015) will provide time for teams to review their Tier 2 system, data, and practices in order to have effective and efficient interventions ready to support youth who are not responding to the Tier 1 system. The Spring retreat (April 6, 2016) will take a closer look at function of behavior to develop positive supports best matched to student need and effective interventions. Both events are taking place from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center. To register or for more information go to

http://www.iod.unh.edu/Services/eventdetail/15-07-29/PBIS_Behavioral_Support_Team_Retreats.aspx.

Professional Development Opportunities Through Plymouth State University

The fall workshops listed below are offered at the Concord location at 2 Pillsbury Street. All workshops take place from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Click on the links to register or for more information.

Literacy:

- Vocabulary and the Common Core – Friday, September 18, 2015
(https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=18113)
- Reading Informational Text and the Common Core – Friday, October 30, 2015
(https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=18114)
- Speaking and Listening Standards in the Content Areas – Friday, November 13,
(https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=18115)
- Literacy Standards in the Disciplines of Science and Social Studies – Friday,
December 11 (https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=18116)

For more information contact Jane Lacasse at (603) 223-0625 or jmlacasse@plymouth.edu.

Mathematics:

- K-4 Mathematics Teachers – Teaching numbers and operations in alliance with
Common Core State Standards – September 28, October 29 and November 9, 2015
(https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=18183)
- 5-8 Mathematics Teachers – Teaching numbers and operations in alliance with
Common Core State Standards – October 7, October 28 and November 18, 2015
(https://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=18184)

For more information contact Natalya Vinogradova at (603) 535-3235 or nvinogradova@plymouth.edu.

Project Learning Tree and Project WILD Workshop

Project WILD and Project Learning Tree are international activity-based, supplementary curricula that support the teaching of conservation and environmental education concepts. Targeting classroom teachers and non-formal educators, activities focus on wildlife and forests and are both interactive and interdisciplinary. Activities can be easily infused into everyday school subjects and busy classrooms. All activities are aligned with national and state curriculum frameworks. This workshop is being offered on Friday, October 9, 2015, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center in Holderness, NH. The cost is \$100, and includes the workshop, two manuals, and snacks. For more information go to www.wildnh.com/education/project-wild.html or contact Mary Goodyear at N.H. Fish and Game at mary.goodyear@wildlife.nh.gov or (603) 271-6649.

Teaching and Leading the New Literacies: Media, Digital, Global

On October 16th NHASCD welcomes Dr. Heidi Hayes Jacobs whose interactive presentation will be on Teaching and Leading the New Literacies: Media, Digital, Global. She will be discussing the need for new types of teachers and leaders, and will be delving into questions such as, "How do we prepare and support our learners, teachers, and leaders for the future?" "How might we most effectively cultivate independent, generative learning?" "What parts of our curriculum need to be replaced -- and with what?" "What are some of the most intriguing

new tools, resources, and assessments to support these emerging literacies?" This conference is taking place at the Grappone Conference Center from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. To register or for more information go to <http://www.cvent.com/events/oct-16th-2015-nhascd-conf-with-heidi-hayes-jacobs/invitation-dcd6f8fc3eab4d3587c947a0b5078284.aspx>.

Teaching Statistics Through Data Investigations

The Friday Institute at NC State has designed a Massive Open Online Course for Educators (MOOC-ED) that is focused on "Teaching Statistics Through Data Investigations." The course is designed to develop the pedagogy and content understanding for teachers in middle school, high school, and AP/intro college levels. There will be many choices and options in the course for teachers to focus their learning around content that they teach. The course will launch September 28th and run for 6 weeks. Registration is free and there is an opportunity for teachers to earn certificates of completion for 20 of PD if they complete all the activities in the course or 25 hours of PD if they complete all activities in the course and do a project. You can see a more detailed description of the course at go.ncsu.edu/tsdi.

Student Voices Project Award

Katie Theberge, an incoming 9th grader in Laconia, has been an active participant in both Project EXTRA's 21st Century Community Learning Center afterschool and summer programs since 2006. She was selected by the US Department of Education (USED) to be a member of the Student Voices Project. USED will track the academic, social, and community service activities of each Student Voices Project participant to show the great work being done in their school and community as well as to inspire other youth. Katie recently attended the USED 21st CCLC Summer Conference in TX as a participant and presenter. 21st Century Community Learning Center Program - 21st CCLC is a federally funded, state managed program through the Department of Education that provides academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty schools. For more information go to www.education.nh.gov/instruction/integrated/title_iv_b.htm.

Manufacturing Week 2015

The Department of Education, and its partners, NH Manufacturing Extension Partnership, NH Division of Economic Development, and NH Community College System, have organized NH Manufacturing Week for October 5-9, 2015. Register your school now to participate in manufacturing plant tours. To register or for more information go to www.education.nh.gov/career/career/index.htm#manufacturing.